

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1529

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, TREASURY, STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: CONGRESSMAN ARCHER ON TNC MEETING

1. CONGRESSMAN ARCHER OF WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, WHO IS MEMBER OF USDEL TO GATT TNC, BRIEFED EMBOFFS JULY 18 ON TNC MEETING JUST CONCLUDED IN GENEVA AND ON HIS VIEWS RE U.S. NEGOTIATING POSTURE AND CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES.

2. ARCHER WAS CLEARLY UNHAPPY WITH U.S. PROPOSAL FOR "EARLY HARVEST" PACKAGE AGREEMENT BY END 1975. HE SEES IT AS UNSALEABLE AND AS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IF ATTEMPT IS MADE AND FAILS. HE SAID U.S. CONCESSIONS AND OVER-ALL BALANCE WOULD HAVE TO BE "UNASSAILABLE" IF ADMINISTRATION EXPECTS EARLY CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, AND THAT IN ANY CASE SUCH APPROVAL WOULD BE OF LITTLE VALUE IN SETTING PATTERN FOR FUTURE CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSE ON MTN ISSUES BECAUSE WHOLE COMPLEXION OF CONGRESS MAY BE CHANGED BY 1976 ELECTIONS. IF "EARLY HARVEST" SHOULD CONTAIN HEAVY CONCESSIONS TO LDC'S, AS

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LATTER OBVIOUSLY HOPE, HE THOUGHT EVEN THESE WOULD BE

RESISTED BY MANY CONGRESSIONAL ELEMENTS. ARCHER
THOUGHT ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE BETTER ADVISED TO
PRESENT FIRST PACKAGE IN EARLY 1977.

3. ARCHER WAS ALSO UNEASY ABOUT U.S. TACTIC OF
PURSUING GRAINS AGREEMENT IN LONDON AS SEPARATE EXER-
CISE FROM MTN, WHICH HE FELT WAS MISCONSTRUED AND
RESENTED IN TNC. HE DID, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THERE MIGHT
BE SOME POSSIBILITY OF GRAIN RESERVE AGREEMENT IN MTN
CONTEXT, PERHAPS THROUGH LEASING BY FOREIGN GOVERN-
MENTS OF U.S. GRAIN STORAGE FACILITIES UNDER
APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS AS TO UNQUESTIONED ACCESS WHEN
NEEDED.

4. ARCHER FELT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN MTN NEGOTIATIONS,
PARTICULARLY ON NTB'S, IF TECHNIQUE COULD BE FOUND
FOR ASSIGNING STANDARD VALUES TO EACH CONCESSION,
THEREBY PERMITTING COMPUTER ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE
AGREEMENT PACKAGES.

5. COMMITTEE STAFFER MEAGHER, WHO ACCOMPANIED ARCHER,
SAID HE HAD HEARD COMMENT FROM FRENCH OFFICIAL IN
GENEVA THAT GOF FINDS AMBASSADOR DENT MORE STRAIGHT-
FORWARD AND EMPATHETIC AS A NEGOTIATING PARTNER THAN
WAS HIS PREDECESSOR.

6. COMMENT: ARCHER OBVIOUSLY VALUES AND ENJOYS HIS
ROLE AS MEMBER OF U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM AND SEEMS TO
BE LEARNING FAST. WE FOUND HIM ESSENTIALLY CONSTRUC-
TIVE AND PRAGMATIC ON TRADE ISSUES AND BELIEVE HE
WISHES TO BE, AND COULD BE, EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN IN
CONGRESS FOR ADMINISTRATION MTN PROPOSALS IF HE IS
GIVEN FULL OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE IN THEIR FORMULATION
AND NEGOTIATION.
GAMMON

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